Remarks

This Reply is in response to the final Office Action mailed March 8, 2010.

I. Summary of Examiner's Rejections

In the final Office Action mailed March 8, 2010, Claims 1-3, 5-10, 20, 22-27, 35 and 37-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whalen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,614,015; hereinafter Whalen), in view of Kautzleben et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,493,624; hereinafter Kautzleben). Claims 4, 21 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whalen and Kautzleben in view of Zellweger (U.S. Patent No. 6,397,222; hereinafter Zellweger).

II. Summary of Applicant's Amendments

The present Reply amends Claims 1, 20 and 35; and cancels Claims 2-5, 43-44, 46-47 and 49-50, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1, 6-10, 21-27, 35-42, 45 and 48.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 20, 22-27, 35 and 37-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whalen in view of Kautzleben. Claims 4, 21 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Whalen and Kautzleben in view of Zellweger.

Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

1. *A system for providing an extensible administration tool, said system comprising:*

a server connected to a network, the server including one or more processors;

a control tree including one or more nodes, each node corresponding to a control panel that invokes functionality of an application;

a plurality of applications provided on the server managed by the extensible administration tool, the administration tool including the control tree and the control panel, wherein the extensible administration tool is extended by adding one or more new control panels, each new control panel being added by creating a new node in the control tree, and wherein,

a first group of services used to extend the control tree by adding the new node, each added node corresponding to one of the one or more new control panels, and wherein the new node is associated with an uniform resource locator (URL) which references the one of the one or more new control panels;

a second group of services used to define the control panel, including customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application;

a first graphical user interface (GUI) operable to provide hierarchical navigation of the control tree;

a second GUI operable to provide the control panel, wherein when a new application is added to the network, the server receives a command to create the new node in the control tree in the first GUI, and associates the new node with the new application, and wherein selecting the new node in the control tree activates the new control pane within the second GUI, the control panel including customizable functions operable to administer resources within the new application; and

wherein the framework includes one or more tabbed dialogs, each tabbed dialog containing nested sub-tabs, and wherein each tab contains customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites an extensible administration tool that includes a first group of services related to extending a control tree and a second group of services related to defining the control panel. The first group of add a new node, each added node corresponding to one of the one or more new control panels. The new node is associated with a uniform resource locator (URL), which references the one of the one or more new control panels. The second group of services are used to define the control panel, including customizable functions to administer resources within the application.

The advantages of Claim 1, in accordance with the embodiment therein, include the ability to extend an administration console such that a user can create their own control panels that appear along with the stand console control panels. The administration console is extended by adding control panels and navigation elements that appear with the supplied system screens. In a traditional system, tools typically integrate new resources into a general-purpose graphical user interface. In accordance with the embodiment therein, however, the administration tool, including the graphical user interface, can be easily customized and tailored to each resource, and include console extensions that can provide custom management of applications deployed on an application/web server, manage third-party systems, manage a custom security provider and provide customized monitoring and management for a server domain.

Whalen discloses a system and method for representing group policy object topology. As disclosed therein, group policy items are displayed in a hierarchical tree-view area that reflects the topology of the network. (Column 2, lines 56-64). When a tree node is selected and displayed, a result pane area is displayed. The result pane provides a display of data, which may be accessible via multiple tabs. Each tab generally corresponds to a task to be performed with respect to the selected node's data and within a tabbed page there may be separate sections.

Kautzleben discloses a monitoring system and method which simplify the management of complex, multi-tiered networks such as those used in large enterprises. (Abstract). As disclosed therein, a cluster of application servers are communicatively coupled on a network to serve applications over the network to a plurality of clients. (Abstract). Each of the application servers includes a plurality of server nodes and at least one dispatcher node. (Abstract). Each of the server nodes and dispatchers is assigned its own dedicated management bean ("MBean") server and each of the MBean servers are associated with a plurality of MBeans for monitoring specified system resources. (Abstract). An adapter service 1308 provides a high-level view of the MBean server 810 and all other MBean servers within the cluster (e.g., as represented by the monitor tree 800).

Claim 1 as amended recites a second group of services used to define the control panel, including customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application. This feature allows for custom management of applications on a web server. As explained in paragraphs [0016] and [0020], the extensible administration tool is extended by adding control panels and navigation elements that appear along with the supplied system screens. The extensible administration tool can, thus, provide functionality not included in a standard administration console or an alternate interface for existing functionality. By example, the extensible administration tool can provide customized monitoring and management screens for a server domain.

It was asserted in the final Office Action that figure 16 of Whalen discloses a second group of services related to defining a control panel. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Figure 16 and columns 19-20 of Whalen appear to disclose a display area 504 that provides a display for data. It appears that display area 504 can display types of data depending on a tab selected. For example, as represented in figure 16, tabs 1604 are provided, including a tab for scope, a tab for details, a tab for settings and a tab for delegation. The tabs that are provided depend on a node type selected, and the tab displayed generally corresponds to a task to be performed with respect to the selected node's data. However, unlike Whalen, Claim 1 recites a

second group of services used to define the control panel. These services include customization functions operable to administer application resources. Applicant respectfully submits that Whalen does not disclose the ability to create customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application. Rather, in Whalen, the tab selected displays a particular type of data for a node, and the type of data displayed depends on the tab node relationship, and does not provide the ability to create customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application, as recited in amended Claim 1.

Further, Claim 1 as amended recites wherein the framework includes one or more tabbed dialogs, each tabbed dialog containing nested sub-tabs, and wherein each tab contains functionality of the control panel. Applicant respectfully submits that although Whalen discloses the use of tabs to organize data for a particular selected node, Whalen does not disclose that each tabbed dialog contains nested sub-tabs. Nor does Whalen disclose that each tab includes customizable functions operable to administer resources within the application, as recited in Claim 1.

Additionally, Claim 1 has been amended to recite a first group of services used to extend the control tree by adding the new node, each added node corresponding to one of the one or more new control panels, and wherein each new node is associated with an uniform resource locator (URL) which references the one of the one or more new control panels. Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is not disclosed in the cited references.

Further, although Kautzleben appears to disclose using Mbeans to provide the ability to monitor specified resources, Applicant respectfully submits that Kautzleben does not disclose an extensible administration tool that is extended by adding one or more new control panels, Nor does Kautzleben disclose a first and second group of services; the first group of services used to extend the control tree, and the second group of services used to define the control panel.

In view of the above comments, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1, as amended, is neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references when considered alone or in combination, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim 20 and 35

The comments provided above with respect to Claim 1 are hereby incorporated by reference. Claim 20 and Claim 35 recite limitations similar to those described above with respect to Claim 1. For similar reasons as provided above with respect to Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 20 and Claim 35 are likewise neither anticipated by, nor obvious

in view of the cited references, when considered alone or in combination, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-10, 21-27 and 36-50

Claims 2-5, 43-44, 46-47 and 49-50 have been canceled, rendering moot the rejection of these claims. Claims 6-10, 21-27, 36-41, 42, 45 and 48 depend from and include all of the features of Claim 1, 20 or Claim 35. Claims 6-10, 21-27, 36-41, 42, 45 and 48 are not addressed separately but it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable at least as depending from an allowable independent claim, and further in view of the comments provided above. Reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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